

Representative Richard L. Steinberg
767 Arthur Godfrey Road
Miami Beach, FL 33140-3413

House District 106



Representative Richard L. Steinberg FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Thank you for the honor of serving you in the Florida House of Representatives.

Representing your interests in the Florida Legislature continues to be a welcomed challenge and a rewarding privilege. I appreciate your vote of confidence and enjoy serving House District 106.

As many of you know, while much of the country is recovering from the recession, Florida continues to face many economic hurdles. Therefore, during the 2010 legislative session, my colleagues and I focused much of our attention on economic development and job creation. In addition, we confronted a number of issues important to our community, including Florida's budget, education, and healthcare of Floridians.

I was pleased to continue to serve on the Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy Committee. I also serve on the House Elder & Family Services Policy Committee, and the PreK-12 Appropriations Committee.

I hope you find this legislative update to be a useful source of information on the 2010 session. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the issues, please call my office at 305-535-5445 or send me an email at Richard.Steinberg@myfloridahouse.gov. As always, if there is anything that I can assist you with, please contact my office.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Steinberg

State Representative, District 106

IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY IS AS EASY AS 1...2...3...

- 1. GO TO www.myfloridacensus.gov:** Every ten years, Florida gets one chance to take a picture of your community. That snapshot determines ten years worth of investments in the future of your community. By visiting www.myfloridacensus.gov, you can help make sure that everyone in your community is represented in Florida's portrait.
- 2. GO TO www.dep.state.fl.us/easyasone:** We are lucky to be surrounded by precious natural resources. Learn how simple, ordinary actions can produce extraordinary results in protecting air and water quality, conserving water and reducing waste.
- 3. FILL OUT THE SURVEY BELOW:** Let Representative Steinberg know where you stand on the issues that matter to you most by mailing back this brief survey.

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
email _____

Please circle your answer to the following questions

1. What do you think is the most important issue facing the State of Florida?
- | | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Economy/Jobs | Healthcare |
| Taxes/Government Spending | Education |
| Environmental Protection | |
| Other: _____ | |
2. On education, do you believe we are spending
too much, too little or just the right amount?

3. Would you support increased penalties for any driver stopped for texting on their phone or PDA while driving? **YES NO**
4. Are you satisfied with the ease of access for senior services in your area? **YES NO**
5. Do you support an Amendment to Florida's Constitution to prohibit near-shore oil drilling off of Florida's coasts? **YES NO**
6. Do you feel your local government is effectively managing growth in your community? **YES NO**
7. Do you believe your insurance company has treated you fairly regarding rates, claim resolution and coverage options? **YES NO**
8. Do you think Florida should pass an Arizona-style immigration law? **YES NO**
9. Do you think that the Legislature has cut property taxes:
a. Too much; Property tax cuts are hurting my local community.
b. Not enough; Property taxes need to be cut further.
c. By the right amount. No more cuts are needed.



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www.facebook.com/RichardLSteinberg

REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD STEINBERG: KEEPING THE ECONOMY OUR TOP PRIORITY IN CHALLENGING TIMES

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

For me, job creation for Floridians was job number one. To that end, I supported a \$200 million jobs package (over 3 years) that is designed to make Florida more economically competitive and to encourage companies to invest in our state and hire Floridians. To continue on our road to recovery, the Legislature must continue to encourage new businesses, promote job creation and remove barriers to economic growth.



INVESTING IN STUDENTS

I firmly believe that our economic recovery will not be complete until we have a world-class education system for students and educators. I believe this year's budget unfortunately moves us further from that goal. The minimal increase in average per-student spending will not even keep up with the increased costs our schools will experience. The budget also allows for university tuition hikes of up to 15 percent, just as it cuts scholarship awards under Bright Futures. As a member of the PreK-12 Appropriations Committee you can count on me to continue to be an advocate for our students.



A 'NO' VOTE ON THE BUDGET

Despite the economic downturn, I believe that the Legislature could have and should have done more to meet the needs of Floridians in this year's budget. I voted against the \$70.4 billion spending plan because, among other things, the budget makes college more expensive, state roads more crowded, doesn't improve health outcomes for all people, and fails to make job creation the top priority.

These are tough economic times, but we must provide for roads and bridges, fund programs that serve the most vulnerable among us, provide for law enforcement and public safety, and fund our schools. I could not, in good conscience, vote for a budget that ignores the needs of my constituents.



MAKING HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE AND AFFORDABLE

Health care for Floridians was among my major priorities during the session. Though we were able to provide funding for many basic health services during a tough budget year, I am deeply disappointed by cuts to programs for vulnerable residents.

A bright spot was legislation to crack down on the corrupt "pill mills" operating around the state. Pain clinics, especially in South Florida, attract patients from all over the country who come to abuse our state's system. To curb this problem, we worked to increase regulation for pain clinics and for physicians who own or work in such clinics. Criminal and financial penalties were added to the law to give law enforcement and prosecutors needed tools to crack down on this growing problem.

NEW ENERGY INITIATIVES AND NEW JOBS

Since you elected me, I have strongly supported policies to promote the development of renewable energy resources and the jobs that will be created in that growing economic sector.

I am particularly proud of a bipartisan effort I backed to make clean energy technology accessible to homeowners and businesses. Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing, which is at the heart of HB 7179, provides local governments the flexibility to create programs to lend funds that homeowners or businesses can use to pay for improvements such as solar panels, high-efficiency water heaters, and storm hardening for their homes.



Place
Stamp
Here

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